

included third instar *Noctua comes* mostly parasitised by *Aleiodes* spp., small *Xestia agathina*, and a tiny *Noctua fimbriata* both also attacked by *Aleiodes* spp., a small *Campaea margaritata* and *Alcis repandata* definitely from *Calluna*, a half-grown *Dyscia fagaria* and a pupa of *Thera obeliscata* amongst *Erica* beneath pine.

Colin Smith will be better known to academia for his outstanding literary achievements associated with his renowned work in promoting better understanding of the Spanish language and literature in which he became a recognised authority of Spanish medieval epic. His *Collins Spanish Directory* is widely acclaimed. He held the Chair of Spanish at St. Catherine's, Cambridge from 1975 to 1990 and pursued a busy life that took him worldwide; a measure of the global esteem in which he is held is a planned two-day conference in his honour. His appointment in 1988 by the Spanish Crown as Commander on the Order of Isabel la Catolica is an outstanding honour and testimony to his eminence.

He reached fame amongst lepidopterists by his discovery of the Southern Chestnut moth *Agrochola haematidea* Dup. in Britain. He was urged at that time to accept the name of Smith's Chestnut for the moth and when he modestly rejected that, then the Sussex Chestnut was also suggested to him, but his better instincts were to adopt a name that not only fixed the species firmly as an inhabitant of the south of Britain, but also recognised that it had, until found in Sussex by Colin, a decidedly southern European distribution. Few of life's achievements are so deliciously rewarding that a moth best known from Spain should be found so far northwards by a Professor of Spanish and lover of all things Hispanic.— GERRY HAGGETT, Meadows End, Northacre, Caston, Norfolk NR17 1DG.

Further records of scarce Tachinidae (Diptera) from Brent Reservoir (Middlesex) and corrections to a previous note on *Thecocarcelia acutangulata* (Macquart)

These records supplement a previous note on scarce Tachinidae at Brent Reservoir (Dobson, 1996. Some nationally rare Tachinidae (Diptera) from Brent Reservoir including the second British record of *Thecocarcelia acutangulata* (Macquart). *Ent. Rec.* **108**: 308-310).

Subclytia rotundiventris (Fallén), 17 August 1995, from the west end of the carr woodland on the south bank of the East SSSI, TQ2187. A small but distinctive species, a female was found "sunning" on a bramble leaf alongside a path at this location. It is a parasitoid of certain Shield Bugs of the families Acanthosomatidae and Pentatomidae, and there are UK rearing records of this species from two members of the former family (Belshaw, 1993. Tachnid Flies. Diptera: Tachinidae. *Handbooks for the Identification*

of *British Insects*. Royal Entomological Society of London. **10** 4a (i)). The same author cites 14 UK records of this Rare (RDB 3) species from a variety of habitats, mainly in south England.

In my previous note (Dobson, *op. cit.*) I gave one record of *Wagneria gagatea* R.-D. from Brent Reservoir. I now have an additional record of this Rare (RDB 3) Tachinid fly from a different area of the same site: two males, 5 June 1996, East SSSI, TQ2187. It is of interest that a male of this species was also recorded from a garden in the area (c. 7km from Brent Reservoir), adjacent to Coppetts Wood LNR, Barnet by K.G.V. Smith (1996. *Wagneria gagatea* R.-D. (Dipt.: Tachinidae) in north London (Middlesex). *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, **132**: 176) on 25 May 1995, three days before I first found it at Brent Reservoir. The only UK rearing record is from The Chestnut *Conistra vaccinii* (L.), a moth which is widespread in the London area and associated here with *Salix* spp. (Plant, C.W., 1993. *Larger moths of the London area*. London Natural History Society). Continental rearing records (from a small number of species of Lepidoptera) and the distribution of this fly in the UK are discussed by Belshaw (*op. cit.*) and Smith (*op. cit.*).

It is unfortunate that two errors occurred in my note on *Thecocarcelia acutangulata* in this journal (Dobson, *op. cit.*). In the first instance, the correct date of capture for this specimen is 3 September 1994 (not 3 October 1994 as cited). I would like to apologise to anyone who is inconvenienced by my mistake. In the second place a "printer's devil" lost 15 words, splicing the beginning of one sentence with the end of the next. This occurs two-thirds of the way down page 309 and should read as follows:

"Rearing specimens of *T. acutangulata* in the Natural History Museum are all Afrotropical and are associated with five species of hesperiid host (N. Wyatt, *pers. comm.*). In addition there is an Austrian rearing record of this species (as *Thecocarcelia incendens* (Rondani)) from *Thymelicus lineola* Ochs., the Essex Skipper butterfly (which occurs at Brent Reservoir) (Carl, K.P., 1968. *Thymelicus lineola* (Lepidoptera: Hesperidae) and its parasites in Europe. *The Canadian Entomologist* **100**(8): 785-801)."

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Some notes on Lepidoptera in Surrey, 1994-6

Phyllonorycter leucographella Zell. is a species that has been rapidly extending its range since first being recorded in Britain in 1989. The first time I encountered this species was on a visit to Surrey in October 1995 when I found dozens of mines on a *Pyracantha* bush in Caterham - TQ331540.